

DERMATOLOGY.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

LOUIS A. DUHRING, M.D.,

PROFESSOR OF DERMATOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,

AND

MILTON B. HARTZELL, M.D.,

ASSOCIATE IN DERMATOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

A Case of Dermatormycosis Caused by *Microsporon Canis*.—NICOLAS and LACOMME (*Annales de Dermatologie et de Syphiligraphie*, 1906, No. 4) report the following case: A man, aged thirty-seven years, complained of generalized itching, most marked on the anterior and lateral surfaces of the thorax. No evidences of scabies or pediculosis were found, but on the anterior surface of the chest, about the middle of the left clavicle, and in the left axilla were two erythematous patches about the size of a two-franc piece. Microscopic examination of scales from these plaques revealed the presence of numerous mycelial threads. Upon interrogating the patient it was learned that he was in the habit of playing with a dog which presented typical lesions of tinea tonsurans. By means of culture and inoculation experiments, the identity of the fungus found on the patient and that obtained from the dog was established, the fungus being identified as *Microsporon canis*. The disease rapidly disappeared after the use of sulphur baths accompanied by frictions with black soap, and painting with tincture of iodine.

A Case of Folliculitis Cutis Gonorrhoeica.—CRONQUIST (*Archiv f. Dermatologie und Syphilis*, Band lxxx, Heft 1) reports the following unusual case of gonorrhoeal infection of the skin: A young man, aged twenty-one years, suffering from a gonorrhoea of one week's duration, with the usual symptoms; an abundance of gonococci being found in the urethral discharge, presented a pea-sized, markedly inflammatory nodule situated a short distance below the umbilicus. Upon removal of the crust which covered its top a drop of greenish pus welled out in which gonococci were demonstrated. Microscopic examination of the lesion showed that the process was a folliculitis and perifolliculitis and its gonorrhoeal nature was proved by the reaction of the pus with the Gram stain. (Cases such as above, and a few others reported by other observers, prove conclusively that the gonococcus may give rise to cutaneous disease.—L. A. D.)

Two New Cases of Porokeratosis.—MIBELLI (*Brit. Jour. of Dermatology*, May, 1906, p. 197) states that about forty cases of this disease have been published. Two new cases are recorded, both occurring in field laborers, one young, the other old, the regions affected in both being the face, hands, legs, and genital region. The chief manifestation consists of a hyperkeratosis together with the characteristic feature of the depressed furrow of the lesion. The process is regarded by Mibelli

as being really a porokeratosis rather than a hyperkeratosis. Later atrophy takes place in the diseased areas, which are thus found when the sebaceous glands and the hair follicles are equally destroyed. In addition to these changes there is a slight infiltration of the corium with mononuclear leukocytes, together with disappearance of the elastic network and a thinning of the callogen bundles. This deeper inflammation is probably the sequel of the hyperkeratosis rather than *vice versa*. The histological facts may be summed up by stating that the disease is a hyperkeratosis with porokeratosis, followed by inflammation of the corium and, finally, atrophy, the hyperkeratosis electing the glandular and follicular apertures, with special reference to the sweat ducts.

Pathology and Therapy of Yaws.—ALDO CASTELLANI (*Jour. of Trop. Med.*, January 1, 1906) concludes that both the lesions and the treatment go to show that yaws (known also as frambesia, parangi, pian, etc.) is distinct from syphilis. The early lesions of yaws show a spirillum, for which he proposes the name *Spirochaeta pertenius*, but this spirochaeta does not prove that the disease is identical with syphilis. Large doses of potassium iodide he found useful in yaws, and much more effective than mercury. Some cases recover without treatment.

Mucous Membrane Lesions in Lupus Erythematosus.—THOMAS SMITH (*Brit. Jour. of Dermat.*, February, 1906) has made a study of fifty-six consecutive cases of lupus erythematosus and has found that sixteen had some affection of the mucous membrane, giving a percentage of 28, which is greater than the prevalent idea. The majority of the patients were unaware of the existence of any lesions in the mouth. All had been patients at the London Hospital recently, the observations having been corroborated by Dr. Sequeira in nearly every case. In no instance of the noted cases was the tongue affected. The mucous membrane lesions were more frequently encountered in cases of the disseminated type. The locality affected was generally the inner surface of the cheeks. The lesions do not materially affect the course of the disease of the skin and do not appear to demand any special local treatment.

PATHOLOGY AND BACTERIOLOGY.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

WARFIELD T. LONGCOPE, M.D.,

DIRECTOR OF THE AYER CLINICAL LABORATORY, PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL,

ASSISTED BY

G. CANBY ROBINSON, M.D.,

RESIDENT PHYSICIAN, PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL, PHILADELPHIA.

Studies in Beriberi.—HERZOG (*Philippine Jour. of Science*, 1906, i, 169) in two papers discusses beriberi, with special reference to the very obscure question of its etiology. In the first paper the author